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EX 2/16/06

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-28 (canceled).

29 (previously presented). An antibody which binds a vertebrate Delta protein, which vertebrate Delta protein is encoded by a first nucleic acid that hybridizes under high stringency conditions to a second nucleic acid, or its complement, the nucleotide sequence of the second nucleic acid being selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:26 and SEQ ID NO:24, said high stringency conditions comprising pretreatment for 8 hours to overnight in a solution containing 6X SSC, 50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5), 1 mM EDTA, 0.02% PVP, 0.02% Ficoll, 0.02% BSA, and 500 µg/ml denatured salmon sperm DNA; hybridization for 48 hours at 68°C in a solution containing 6X SSC, 50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5), 1 mM EDTA, 0.02% PVP, 0.02% Ficoll, 0.02% BSA, and 100 µg/ml denatured salmon sperm DNA; washing for 1 hour at 37°C in a solution containing 2X SSC, 0.01% PVP, 0.01% Ficoll, and 0.01% BSA; and a second washing for 45 minutes at 50°C in a solution containing 0.1X SSC; and which antibody does not bind a *Drosophila* Delta protein.

30 (previously presented). An antibody, which binds a human Delta protein, which human Delta protein is encoded by a first nucleic acid that hybridizes under high stringency conditions to a second nucleic acid, or its complement, the nucleotide sequence of the second nucleic acid being selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:14 and SEQ ID NO:26, said high stringency conditions comprising pretreatment for 8 hours to overnight in a solution containing 6X SSC, 50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5), 1 mM EDTA, 0.02% PVP, 0.02% Ficoll, 0.02% BSA, and 500 µg/ml denatured salmon sperm DNA; hybridization for 48 hours at 68°C in a solution containing 6X SSC, 50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5), 1 mM EDTA,